

SANG YOUNG KIM *et al.*
Application No. 09/434,736
Amendment dated January 15, 2008

PATENT

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to telephone discussions held with Examiner Pert on November 13, 2007 and December 28, 2007. Claims 1-28, 30-39, 41-43, 45-70, 72-80, and 82-88 are currently pending in the subject application. Claims 11, 12, 15, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30-32, 34, 36, 39, 41 and 64-66 have been amended. Support for all amended claims can be found in the specification, and no new matter has been added by these amendments. The specification has also been amended. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner informed Applicants' representative that approval of the allowability of the present application has been declined for the following reasons: 1) a copy of a previously submitted supplemental declaration is required; 2) figures submitted on September 19, 2002 need to be labeled "Amended"; 3) the amendment filed on July 2, 2001 requires correction because the added paragraph was not underlined; and 4) an amendment filed on January 7, 1997 attempts to recapture subject matter surrendered by an amendment filed on October 15, 1996. Each of the four issues is addressed below.

1) No supplemental declaration has been filed for this application. The original declaration submitted on November 22, 1999 with the originally filed reissue application is included in the appendix following page 28 of this paper.

2) The figures filed on September 16, 2002 were formal drawings submitted to replace the originally filed drawings. The formal drawings did not include any amendment. The formal drawings were submitted to address the draftsperson's review, Form PTO 948, dated December 16, 1999. Specifically, the formal drawings were submitted to correct the poor printing quality of the originally filed drawings. Since no amendment was made to the drawings, the figures need not be labeled as "Amended".

3) The amendment filed on July 2, 2001 added a new paragraph to the specification. However, the paragraph was not underlined. The added paragraph has been resubmitted herewith and is underlined. Thus, the specification is correctly amended to include the new paragraph.

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4) The attempt to recapture surrendered subject matter is overcome by the amendments made to claims 11, 12, 15, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30-32, 34, 36, 39, 41 and 64-66. Specifically, these claims have been amended to add a limitation wherein the first conductive material layer is grown over and extends slightly beyond the first contact holes. Thus, the surrendered subject matter is not recaptured.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 206-467-9600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated

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Attachments
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Appendix